Letters to reſtraine carrying of

Packets by Shippers, &c.

AFter our hearty commendations. Whereas it hath pleaſed his Maieſtie, by his Proclamation, bearing date the fifteenth of *May*, 1609. to expreſſe his Royall pleaſure, for the orderly going and comming of ſuch Carriers and Poſts, as are in due maner eſtabliſhed by the Poſt-Maſters reciprocally, both on this ſide, and on the parts beyond the Seas; and likewiſe his Maieſties intention in the ſaid Proclamation, hath for diuers important reaſons, beene further explaned and enlarged, by the Lords of his Maieſties moſt honorable Priuy Councell, wherewith wee doubt not but you are throughly acquainted.

Now, foraſmuch as ſpeciall complaint hath beene made by the ſaid Poſtmaſters, and the Poſts imployed vnder them, that they ſuffer great wrong and detriment, by the ouermuch carrying, and bringing into this Realme of Letters and Packets, by Shipers, and Maſters of Ships, beſides their fraight Letters, eſpecially to, and from the Ports of *Zeland* and *Flanders*, contrary to his Maieſties ſaid Proclamation, and the order of his Maieſties Priuie Councell aforeſaide. For redreſſe whereof, and for the reliefe of the ſaid Poſts, whereby they may be the better enabled to performe their duties and ſeruice to his Maieſtie: Theſe are to will and require you, and euery of you, whom it may concerne, That you doe henceforth, not onely ſee his Maieſties ſaid Proclamation and order, in all points duely obſerued and performed; but that further you doe make diligent ſearch for all Letters and Packets, that ſhall bee ſo brought in, and carried forth, eſpecially by any the ſaid Shippers of *Zeland*, and the Ports of *Flanders*. And in caſe you ſhall finde any Letters or Packets, either in the charge of any Shippers, or Maſters of Ships, beſides their fraight Letters, or in the hands of any other paſſengers, not thereunto by good warrant authoriſed; We doe heereby in his Maieſties name ſtraightly charge and commaund you, to take them into your poſſeſsion, and thereof to make preſent deliuery into the handes of *Matthew de Queſter*, his Maieſties Poſt-Maſter for forraine ſeruices; for ſo it is his Maieſties pleaſure and command. And heereof you may not faile, as you will anſwere the contrary at your perils.

From White-Hall the ſixth of February, 1618.

Your louing Friends,

THO. LAKE. ROBERT NAVNTON.

To our louing friends, the Searchers of the Port of London, Grauesend *and* Douer, *and to the Searchers of all other his Maieſties Ports, and other Officers to whom it may appertaine.*

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